in the hilly and backward areas of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the names of hilly areas which are proposed to be identified for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACE (SHRI SHIV RAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) : Union Government does not have specific plans to set up electronic units in the hilly and backward areas. However, the concerned State Governments take steps to get electronic units in their hilly areas. The DOE gives them technical advice. Government's Electronics policy permits location of electronics industry in any permissible area. This policy is uniform for all State. It is left to the State Governments to create local climate so as to attract enterpreneurs and take other promotional measures. With a view to encourage more Electronic industries in Hill districts included in Category 'A' it has also been decided that the maximum ceiling of Central Investment subsidy would be raised from Rs. 25 lakhs to Rs. 50 lakhs at the rate of 25% in case of Electronic industries set up in 'Special Region District's in Category 'A'.

समुद्र विज्ञान के लिए प्रौद्योगिकीय संस्थान

1954. **श्री रामचन्द्र विकल** : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार समुद्री खोज और विकास के लिए समुद्रीविज्ञान प्रौद्योगिकीय संस्थान स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संस्थान के केन्द्रों की किन-किन स्थानों पर स्थापना किए जाने की संभावना है ;

(ग) क्या इस कार्यक्रम के लिए स्वदेशी प्रौद्योगिकी की मदद से अनुसंधान पोत के निर्माण का प्रस्ताव है अथवा उसे किसी अन्य देश से मंगवाए जाने का प्रस्ताव है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसकी लागत क्या होगी ?

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय तथा महासागर विकास, परमाणु ऊर्जा, इलैक्ट्रानिकी और अन्तरिक्ष विभागों में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शिवराज पाटिल) : (क) सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

(ख) से (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

Ocean exploration

1955. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated plan for ocean exploration during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIV RAJ PATIL) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) After detailed survey and exploration work in the Central Indian Ocean has identified two mine sites, each of approximately 150,000 square kilometres. India had filed an application with the Preparatory Commission of the International Seabed Authority for registration and allotment of one of the two sites. More extensive survey and exploration are contemplated during the Seventh Five Year Plan at lesser grid spaces for refinding the coordinates of the mine sites and ultimately to delineate the potential eco-